Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (previously presented) An isolated protein comprising the amino acid of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 5 (previously presented) An isolated protein comprising the amino acid of SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid 68 to amino acid 269.

Claim 6 (previously presented) An isolated protein comprising the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of clone BBP1-fl deposited under accession number ATCC 98617.

Claim 7 (previously presented) An isolated protein comprising the amino acid sequence from amino acid 185 to amino acid 217 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 8 (currently amended) A non-naturally occurring fusion protein comprising amino acid 185 to amino acid 217 of SEQ ID NO: 2 ~~an amino acid sequence with homology of 90% or greater to SEQ ID NO: 2 linked to a peptide sequence~~.

Claims 9-33 (canceled)

Claim 34 (currently amended) The fusion protein of claim 8 ~~wherein the protein sequence comprises~~ comprising a human ß-Amyloid Peptide (BAP).

Claim 35 (previously presented) The fusion protein of claim 34 wherein the BAP is BAP42.

Claim 36 (currently amended) The fusion protein of claim 8, ~~wherein the protein sequence linked to SEQ ID NO: 2 comprises a heterologous~~ comprising a protein which is heterologous to SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 37 (previously presented) A fusion protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acids 68 to 269 with two regions of sufficient length and hydrophobicity to transverse a cellular membrane as deposited under the accession number ATCC 98399.

Claim 38 (previously presented) A non-naturally occurring fusion protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 linked to a peptide sequence.

Claim 39 (currently amended) The fusion protein of claim 8 ~~wherein the protein linked to SEQ ID NO: 2 comprises~~ comprising maltose binding protein (MBP), glutathione-S-transferase (GST), or thioredoxin (TRX).

Claim 40 (new) A method for identifying compounds that modulate the binding between two proteins, comprising:

(a) incubating a test compound in a test medium comprising a ß-amyloid peptide and a protein of claim 7 under conditions effective for binding of said ß-amyloid peptide to said protein of claim 7; and

(b) comparing the binding of said ß-amyloid peptide to said protein of claim 7 in the presence and absence of said test compound, wherein increased binding designates an activator and decreased binding designates an inhibitor of said binding.

Claim 41 (new) A recombinant protein comprising amino acid 185 to amino acid 217 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 42 (new) The recombinant protein of claim 41, comprising amino acid 68 to amino acid 269 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 43 (new) The recombinant protein of claim 41, comprising amino acid 237 to amino acid 241 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 44 (new) The recombinant protein of claim 41, comprising an ALU element.

Claim 45 (new) A method for identifying agents that modulate the binding between two proteins, comprising:

(a) contacting an agent to a medium or platform which includes a protein of interest and a recombinant protein of claim 41; and

(b) comparing binding of said protein of interest to said recombinant protein in the presence and absence of said agent, wherein a change in said binding indicates that said agent is a modulator of said binding.

Claim 46 (new) A recombinant protein comprising amino acid 123 to amino acid 202 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 47 (new) A recombinant protein comprising amino acid 185 to amino acid 217 of SEQ ID NO: 2 with at least one amino acid modification at residues 199-201.

Claim 48 (new) The recombinant protein of claim 47, wherein said at least amino acid modification includes a substitution from arginine to glutamic acid at residue 200.